

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02

STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /065 W

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R 161423Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 994

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EFIN, EG, EEC

SUBJECT: FORTHCOMING GOE/EC NEGOTIATIONS

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF MARCH 15, MINISTRY OF TRADE UNDER SECRETARY MOHAMED ZULFICAR INFORMED THAT NEXT ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS ON EC TRADE CONCESSIONS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IS DUE TO BE HELD AT BRUSSELS IN MAY OR JUNE OF THIS YEAR. FOUR-MAN TECHNICAL LEVEL EC GROUP VISITED CAIRO WEEK OF MARCH 7, BUT MOST RECENT FORMAL TALKS WERE HELD LATTER PART OF JANUARY 1976. ZULFICAR, WHO HAS LONG BEEN CONCERNED WITH EC TRADE MATTERS, EXPECTS TO HEAD DELEGATION TO BRUSSELS.

2. UNDER SECRETARY NOTED GOE IS INTERESTED IN GAINING NONRECIPROCAL CONCESSIONS IN EXPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS. HE CITED EXAMPLE IN AGRICULTURAL AREA OF ORANGES, WHICH NOW HAS 40 PERCENT REDUCTION IN EC IMPORT DUTY, BUT WHICH GOE HOPES TO HAVE REDUCED TO 60 PERCENT. INDUSTRIAL GOODS, NOW REDUCED 80 PERCENT ACCORDING ZULFICAR, WILL BE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATION TO 100 PERCENT LEVEL, OR NO RPT NO DUTY, WITH CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS AND WITH CEILING ON EGYPTIAN EXPORTS OF SOME COMMODITIES.

3. ZULFICAR COMMENTED GOE WILL BE SEEKING GRANT AND SOFT

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LOAN AID FROM EC (POSSIBLY, ALTHOUGH NOT STATED, IN CONNECTION

WITH RECENTLY NEGOTIATED COMMODITY AGREEMENT) IN AMOUNT NOT YET DETERMINED. HE SAID SUM OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND TYPE WOULD BE DISCUSSED IN CONTEXT OF SIZE OF EGYPT IN RELATION TO OTHER MAHGREB COUNTRIES (OBVIOUSLY A REFERENCE TO RELATIVELY LARGE EGYPTIAN POPULATION) AND WITH REGARD TO NATION'S PRESSING FINANCIAL NEEDS. ZULFICAR STATED HE IS WELL AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT DECISIONS ON THIS QUESTION WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERATION BY SEVERAL LEVELS OF EC POLICY MAKERS.

EILTS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS, FINANCIAL PROGRAMS, TRADE CONCESSIONS, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 MAR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976CAIRO03424  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760099-0532  
**From:** CAIRO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760358/aaaabyna.tel  
**Line Count:** 70  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 31 MAR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <31 MAR 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <01 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FORTHCOMING GOE/EC NEGOTIATIONS  
**TAGS:** ETRD, EFIN, EG, EEC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006